

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/600,061

Applicant(s)

SCHNEIDER-HUFSCHMIDT,
MATTHIAS

Examiner

Daniel Swerdlow

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to preliminary amendment filed 10 July 2000.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 July 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/10/2000
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


XU MEI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. Claims 13 through 24 are allowed.
3. Regarding Claim 13, Wolf (US Patent 4,453,040) discloses a telephone (Figure; column 1, line 65 through column 2, line 5) with feature-associated pushbutton switches (i.e., an operating surface) (Figure, reference 301a-301n). Wolf further discloses that the switches can be individually programmed for repertory dialing (i.e., speed dialing) (column 2, lines 8-12) or any other feature (i.e., CLASS functions). Therefore, Wolf anticipates all elements of Claim 13 except an activation function selection for enabling a command sequence following selection of said activation function selection to be interpreted as a CLASS function until disabled and a deactivation function selection for disabling interpretation of a command sequence as a CLASS function following selection of said deactivation function selection. Kakizawa (US Patent 5,054,058) discloses a telephone with a keyboard and a plurality of one touch buttons (i.e., operating surface) (Fig. 1, reference 16, 13; column 2, line 62 through column 3, line 11). Kakizawa further discloses the keyboard includes an outside line button (Fig. 1, reference 14) that when pressed (i.e., activation function selection) designates a subsequent pressing of a one-touch button (i.e., a command sequence) to be interpreted as an outside number associated with the one-touch button. Kakizawa further discloses that if the outside line button is not pressed (i.e., deactivation function selection) designates a subsequent pressing of a one-touch button (i.e., a command sequence) to be interpreted as an inside extension number associated with the one-touch button. As such, Kakizawa teaches the sharing of individual buttons on a telephone between two functions with activation and deactivation function selection for one of the

Art Unit: 2644

functions. Further, Kakizawa discloses that this button sharing results in the need for fewer buttons on a telephone and results in lower cost (column 1, lines 22-36). However, the button sharing taught by Kakizawa is based on the distinction between inside and outside calling. As such, the prior art fails to fairly teach or suggest button sharing with a distinction based on the difference between CLASS functions and telephone numbers. Therefore, Claim 13 is allowable.

4. Claims 14 through 23 are allowable due to dependence from Claim 13.
5. Claim 24 is essentially similar to Claim 13 and is allowable for the same reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Swerdlow whose telephone number is 703-305-4088. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forrester Isen can be reached on 703-305-4386. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2644

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ds

2



XU MEI
PRIMARY EXAMINER